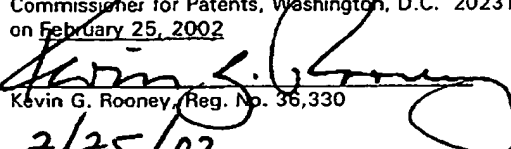


PATENT  
6/1/03  
B. Webb  
7/16/03

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on February 25, 2002

  
Kevin G. Rooney, Reg. No. 36,330

2/25/02  
Date

Applicants: Mark Ortiz et al.  
Serial No: 09/677,981  
Filing Date: October 3, 2000  
Art Unit: 3762  
Examiner: Scott M. Getzow  
Title: IMPLANTABLE HEART ASSIST DEVICES AND METHODS  
Atty Docket: SPEN-08

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

February 25, 2002

**AMENDMENT AND  
RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 1-4 and 6-8 as follows:

- a1
1. (Amended) A device for supporting a heart having left and right ventricles separated by an interventricular septum, the device comprising: